GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3008
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
FOODGRAIN ALLOCATION TO BPL FAMILIES
CHINMAYANAND;DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI;JASKAUR MEENA;Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have revamped the Public Distribution System in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the people living below the poverty line are not getting any special benefit from it;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to channelise the system to provide adequate benefits to the lowest strata of the society?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SH KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a)&(b): Yes Sir. In order to streamline the PDS and with a view to enhance the foodsecurity at the household level, the Government of India launched the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) with its focus on the poor in June, 1997.The allocation of foodgrains which was initially 10 Kg. per family per month was doubled to 20 Kg. w.e.f. 1.4.2000 and raised to 25 Kg. per family per month from July, 2001. Presently, 35 Kg. per family per month is being allotted to the BPL families w.e.f. 1.4.2002. The central issue prices for BPL families which was fixed at Rs.4.15 per Kg. for wheat and Rs.5.65 per Kg. for rice have remained unchanged for the last two years.

(c)&(d): No Sir. Does not arise.

(e): The Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) which was launched by the Prime Minister on 25 December, 2000, so as to serve `the poorest of poor` one crore families is under implementation in all the States/UTs. Under the scheme 35 Kg. of foodgrains per family per month at highly subsidized rates of Rs.2 per Kg. for wheat and Rs.3 per Kg. for rice is being supplied to all the ntyodaya families.